

**Higher Education Commission  
National Computing Education Accreditation Council  
(NCEAC)**

**Minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
National Computing Education Accreditation Council  
(NCEAC)**

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The 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the National Computing Education Accreditation Council (NCEAC) was held on Thursday, June 05, 2014 at 11:00 am. The venue of the meeting was Mural Hall, HEC Headquarters, H-9, Islamabad. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Dr. Aftab Ahmad, Chairman, NCEAC.

The following members of the Council attended the Meeting:

1. Prof. Dr. Syed Mansoor Sarwar, Principal PUCIT, Lahore (on Skype)
2. Prof. Dr. M. Ali Maud, Chairman CS & E Department, UET, Lahore (on Skype)
3. Prof. Dr. M. Abid Khan, Dept. of CS, University of Peshawar
4. Prof. Dr. S. M. Aqil Burney, College of CS & IS, IoBM Karachi
5. Prof. Dr. Faisal Ahmad Khan Kakar, Dean, Faculty of Sciences, BUITEMS, Quetta
6. Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali Shahid, HoD CS Dept, Fast NUCES, Islamabad
7. Dr. Farhana Jabeen, Asst. Prof. CIIT Islamabad
8. Dr. Zartash Afzal Uzmi, Confiz Solution, Lahore (on Skype)
9. Dr. Jamil Ahmad, Vice Chancellor Abasyn University
10. Dr. Rafiq Baloch, DG, QAA, HEC
11. Mr. Rana Muhammad Saood, Analyst, Ministry of IT & Telecom, Islamabad
12. Mr. Atthar Hussain Baloach, DD, IT Dept. Govt. of Sindh, Karachi
13. Mr. Amir Zafar Chaudhary, Director General, Punjab IT Board, Lahore
14. Mr. Asghar Ali Khan, GIS Specialist, IT, Peshawar, KPK
15. Mr. Sultan Muhammad, Under Secretary, IT Dept. Govt. of Balochistan, Quetta
16. Mr. Syed Ali Abbas Hasni, Director, PSEB, Islamabad
17. Mr. Aslam Lashari, Director General, PCB, Islamabad

The following member could not attend the Meeting due to their preoccupation:

1. Miss Jehan Ara, President, PASHA, Karachi
2. Dr. Zia ud Din, Senior Staff Engineer, MS Streaming Networks, Islamabad
3. Mr. Masroor Ahmad Qureshi, Joint Technological Advisor, Ministry of Science & Technology, Islamabad
4. Mr. Sarwar Gondal, Director General, IT Board, AJK

Prof. Dr. Aftab Ahmad, Chairman NCEAC welcomed and thanked the members for attending the meeting.

**Agenda Item No. 1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of NCEAC**

Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of NCEAC held on December 26, 2013 were previously submitted to all members and also furnished for the current Meeting. However, no comments were received so far. Dr. Aqil Burney proposed and Dr. Muhammad Abid Khan seconded for the approval of the Minutes. The same were approved by the Council.

**Resolution No. 19.1.06.14:** Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of NCEAC stand approved.

**Agenda Item No. 2 Consideration of Approval of the Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Accreditation and Standard Committee, National Computing Education Accreditation Council**

Recommendations of the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Accreditation and Standards Committee held on Thursday, June 05, 2014 at 09:00 am in Mural Hall, HEC, H-9, Islamabad and respective **Accreditation Assessment Profile (AAP)** were furnished to all the participants of the meeting. The said proceedings and details of category awarded to each program were presented by Dr. Aftab Ahmad. The Minutes and Summary of Accreditation Assessment Profile of the meeting were approved by the Council. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as Annex-A. The following decisions were made.

The recommendations of Accreditation and Standard Committee regarding Accreditation Assessment Profile (Annex-A) of computing programs of the following institutions were presented and discussed.

**Resolution No. 19.2.06.14:** The Council decided to award **Accreditation Categories** to the following institutions as per the respective Accreditation Profile enclosed herewith:

S.No	Institution Name	Program	Recommended Category	Batches
1.	Air University, Islamabad	BS-CS	X	2010-2014 2011-2015
2.	Center for Advanced Studies in Engineering (CASE), Islamabad	BS-CS	X	2011-2015 2012-2016
3.	Comsats, Wah	BS-CS	Y	2010-2014
4.	Comsats, Islamabad	BS-CS	W	2010-2014 2011-2015 2012-2016
5.	Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science & Technology, Islamabad	BS-CS	Y	2010-2014
6.	Government College University, Lahore	BS-CS	Y	2010-2014
7.	Hamdard University, Karachi	BS-CS	X	2010-2014 2011-2015
8.	Indus University, Karachi	BS-CS	Y	2010-2014
9.	Institute of Business & Technology (BizTek), Karachi	BS-CS	Y	2010-2014
10.	Institute of Business & Technology (BizTek), Karachi	BS-SE	Y	2010-2014
11.	National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamabad	BS-SE	Y	2010-2014
12.	Pakistan Navy Engineering College (PNEC), Karachi	BS-MIS	X	2010-2014 2011-2015
13.	Qurtuba University, DIKhan	BS-CS	Y	2010-2014

14.	University of Engineering & Technology, Lahore	BS-CS	W	2010-2014 2011-2015 2012-2016
15.	University of Wah, Wah	BS-CS	Y	2010-2014
16.	University of Haripur, Haripur	BS-CS	Y	2010-2014
17.	University of Sargodha, Sargodha	BS-CS	Y	2010-2014
18.	University of Sargodha, Sargodha	BS-SE	Y	2010-2014
19.	University of Sargodha, Sargodha	BS-IT	Y	2010-2014

### **Agenda Item No. 3 Action Report-Publication of ad regarding Public Alert in national newspapers**

The Chairman apprised the members that as per policy of the Council, an ad entitled Parents Alert is being published in national newspapers. On an inquiring from the members, it was informed that there was no mention of the accreditation category of the University and only accreditation status is given. Members pointed out that batch-wise status of each University should be given on the Website of the Council.

**Resolution No. 19.3.06.14:** The following recommendations were made by the members to enhance response of institutions for accreditation of computing programs:

1. A notice of non-accredited institutions be published to give a cut of date for submission of applications for accreditation of their respective computing programs without mentioning the names of the institutions.
2. Affiliated Institutions are required to seek accreditation individually and are not automatically accredited due to accreditation of their parent institutions.
3. A 4-step accreditation drive be initiated:
  - (1) Launching of awareness campaign for accreditation of all three programs (CS/SE/IT) with a cut of date
  - (2) Visit of Committees to various non-accredited Universities be arranged to motivate/convince the institutions for accreditation.
  - (3) A Warning be issued to non-accredited institutions through national dailies and writing to the institutes individually with a cut of date.
  - (4) Subsequently, after taking all the above-mentioned steps, list of names of non-accredited institutes to be published with a cut of time.

### **Agenda Item No. 4 Action Report-Summary of accredited programs and applications Received**

Summary of accredited programs and applications received was presented and discussed. The same is sent herewith for the record and information of the members of the Council.

The Chairman apprised the members that Council's website lists all accredited programs with the categories assign to each Program.

**Resolution No. 19.4.06.14:** The information presented in the agenda was noted with satisfaction. The success of the Council is being appreciated.

**Agenda Item No. 5:** Consideration of the following proposals for approval:

**a. Presentation by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Maud Ali regarding Revision of the entire system of accreditation, particularly type and number of application forms required. Some of the key points presented were:**

- (1) Evaluation system of PEC was studied and found quite suitable for adaptation.
- (2) Write up on the guidelines is in progress.
- (3) Submission of lectures/slide and course outlines etc in E-form is being considered.
- (4) Proposal to be circulated among members, PEs for review

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.a:** It was decided that final document will be sent for review and will be finalized in the next Council's meeting

**b. Presentation by Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali Shahid regarding development of the full-fledged Professional Registration system.**

Dr. Arshad Ali Shahid reported that the following committee constituted in this regards met once and deliberated various aspects of professional registration.

- (1) Dr. Arshad Ali Shahid (FAST-NU)
- (2) Dr. Sharifullah Khan (SEECS, NUST)
- (3) Dr. Uzair Khan (FAST-NU)

After the discussing various following options concerning the framework/model was proposed:

**(1) Registration Style (Memberships Vs Registration)**

The members suggested that a flexible model be adopted to get the benefits of both accreditation bodies and that of professional societies. The model of the British computer Society (BCS) was considered worth adopting. BCS offers membership on the basis of academic qualifications as well as their own examinations.

**(2) Registration Type (Simple Registration Vs Categorization)**

There was another consideration as whether there should be just registration or different level/categories like Student Member, Member, Fellow, etc). It was agreed that BCS style of categories will be more suitable.

**(3) Time of Registration (Admission Vs graduation)**

It was agreed that registration will be made after the graduation and not at the time of admission to a computing degree program.

**(4) Eligibility of Registration**

Graduates of accredited institutes (by NCEAC and other approved bodies) or from approved foreign universities will automatically qualify for the registration. The others will be put to test (examined and their level determined as per set criteria)

**(5) Mechanism for Enforcement**

It was agreed that we cannot force the registration by law. However registration should be mandatory for the faculty (of the accredited institutes) and other incentive like Smart Card will be issued to the Individual. Promotion/Marketing campaign will be launched to make awareness of all stakeholders

**(6) Scope of the Committee**

The committee will propose the rules & regulations for registration of professional as well as supervise/monitor the development of online registration system.

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.b:** The committee was requested to send the final recommendations by September 2014. Moreover, it was decided that final document will be sent for review and will be finalized in the next Council's meeting

**c. Presentation by Prof. Dr. Jamil Ahmad regarding Organization of First International Conference on Quality in Computing Education.**

A presentation was made by Dr. Jamil Ahmad regarding plan of the proposed conference. The following suggestions were made by the members:

- (1) Latest trends were proposed and the important agenda for the conference.
- (2) Exhibition should also be included with incentive like 'Innovation Prizes'.
- (3) Pak-China Centre seems a better option for holding the conference.
- (4) Awareness about access to technology should also be included and companies like IBM, Oracle and Microsoft should also be invited to showcase the tools/support they offer for computing education.
- (5) Sponsorship should be sought PASHA, PSEB, MoIT, and HEC.

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.c:** Principally, the proposal was approved. However, it was decided that sponsorship from ICT and HEC is to be sought via their procedure at the earliest.

**d. Appeal cases received from the following institutes against the category awarded in the 18<sup>th</sup> NCEAC meeting:**

- i. Jinnah University for Women, Karachi
- ii. MAJU, Islamabad
- iii. City University, Peshawar

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.d:** The previous decision of the Council concerning the respective category granted was maintained

**e. Proposed list of faculty members for approval as Programme Evaluators of NCEAC.**

The applications of faculty members were placed before the Council for approval as NCEAC Program Evaluators.

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.e:** It was decided that the following standing committee headed by Prof. Dr. Aftab Ahmad, Chairman NCEAC will evaluate and approve PEs (for now and future):

- a. Prof. Dr. Aftab Ahmad
- b. Prof. Dr. Mansoor Sarwar
- c. Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali Shahid

**f. Details regarding upcoming Workshop of Programme Evaluators organized by HEC.**

Members were briefed about the planned Second Program Evaluators Workshop to be held on 23-24 June 2014.

**g. Participation of PEs via Video Conference on NCEAC Programme Evaluators workshop.**

Some PEs requested to participate in the **Program Evaluators Workshop** to be held on 23-24 June 2014 via video conference. It was decided that PEs should attend the Conference at Islamabad as it will provide the opportunity to interact with other colleagues. Accordingly, the participation through video conference was not approved.

**h. NOC requested from Lahore University of Management and Technology, Pattoki.**

Lahore University of Management and Technology, Pattoki requested the council to issues an NOC to start the computing program. The council clarified that it is not the jurisdiction of NCEAC to issue such NOCs.

**i. Renaming of Council: Notification of the decision made in 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of NCEAC for renaming the Council as National Computing Council (NCC)**

In 19<sup>th</sup> NCEAC Meeting, the members unanimously agreed to maintain the decision made in 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting regarding the renaming of the Council from National Computing Education Accreditation Council to National Computing Council (NCC).

However, Prof. Dr. Aftab Ahmad, Chairman was requested to clarify the same finally from HEC.

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.i:** It has been decided that the name of the Council be re-named as National Computing Council (NCC) after clearance from HEC

**j. Hiring of Part-Time Secretary of NCEAC**

A Council' member was required to be designated as Secretary as per Notification of Council by HEC. However, the proposed arrangement has not worked successfully due to the following two reasons:

- a. The scope of operations of the Council is increasing continuously and demand for formal writing including correspondence with institutions, documentation of decision, handling of Minutes of Meetings and development of manuals of accreditation is increasing proportionally as well
- b. All Council members have full-time job and it seems difficult to manage the functions of Secretary

Accordingly, the Council has a desperate need to hire a part time Secretary to handle the above-mentioned functions.

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.j:** The Council approved to appoint the part time Secretary as per the following:

- 1) The position is to be advertised in 3 national newspapers and website of Council to invite the applications
- 2) The following committee headed by Prof. Dr. Aftab Ahmad, Chairman NCEAC will evaluate, interview, determine enumeration and select from the available shortlisted candidates:
  - a. Prof. Dr. Aftab Ahmad
  - b. Prof. Dr. Mansoor Sarwar
  - c. Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali Shahid

**k. Presentation by Chairman NCEAC in ICER (ACM Conference)**

It is evident that Council needs image building and exposure both at national and international levels. A forthcoming unique event in the domain of Council is International Computing Education Research (ICER) Conference-2014 to be held from August 11-13, 2014 at the University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.

To this end, Prof. Dr. Aftab Ahmad submitted proposal for Lighting Talk entitled “*An Experience of Accrediting Computing Programs in Pakistan*” in ICER-2014 and same was approved for presentation. The matter was presented before the Council for approval.

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.k:** The Council approved Lighting Talk entitled “*An Experience of Accrediting Computing Programs in Pakistan*” for presentation in ICER-2014 by Prof, Dr. Aftab Ahmad, Chairman NCEAC. The trip will be sponsored (Registration, Travelling and Lodging, etc) by Council as per HEC rules

**l. Draft proposal for System Engineering and Cyber Architecture degree programs.**

Draft Proposal for accreditation of System Engineering and Cyber Arch degree Programs by NCEAC forwarded by Dr. Shoib Murad, Rector, UMT, Lahore was presented to the Council.

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.l:** It was decided that the following standing committee headed by Prof. Dr. M. Ali Maud will evaluate the matter (for now and future) and report to the Chairman:

- a. Prof. Dr. M. Ali Maud
- b. Prof. Dr. Mansoor Sarwar
- c. Prof. Dr. Zartash Afzal Uzmi .

**m. Approval for Journal Paper**

A proposal was placed before the Council for publication of a research paper regarding the evolution and achievements of NCEAC for its international recognition in the renowned international technology Journals. The authors of the proposed paper are Prof. Dr. Aftab Ahmad, Prof. Dr. Mansoor Sarwar and Dr. Umair Abdullah.

**Resolution No. 19.5.06.14.m:** Council approved the proposal unanimously.

**Agenda Item No. 7:** Any new matter with permission of the Chair

- (1) The support of HEC is solicited for organization of the Third Regional Meetings nationwide ((i.e. Karachi, Lahore, Quetta, and Peshawar) to promote the accreditation program of NCEAC. Dr. Rafiq Baloch is requested to take-up the matter with HEC.
- (2) The Curricula Wing of HEC maybe contacted to organize the meetings of the NCRCs (Computer Science, Software Engineering and Information Technology) in coordination of NCEAC to publish Computing Curricula-2014.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.